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IAC-D-57/107

10 September 1958

Post-Mortem on NIE 89-58:

The Venezuelan Situation and Prospects,

dated 9 September 1958

I. Findings

Sufficient information was available to identify the main factors in the Venezuelan situation and the general lines of possible development, although more detailed information on some matters would have been desirable. The developing situation will bear close watching, with particular reference to:

1. The identity and political attitudes of key personalities in the armed forces; the loyalties of the rank-and-file; the likelihood of a military coup in various contingencies.
2. The solidarity of the political parties under the principle of "national unity"; their attitudes toward each other, particularly toward Accion Democratica and the PCV: conflicts among them over the selection of a presidential candidate and a coalition cabinet, or in the course of the congressional elections.
3. Relative party strengths and influence shown in the reorganization of the labor unions.
4. The extent of Communist infiltration and influence in the major political parties, organized labor, student groups, the government, the armed forces, etc.

II. Action

Members of the IAC are requested to take such action as they deem appropriate to ensure timely receipt of the indicated information.

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